

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04863 111556Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
MCT-01 DHA-02 IO-13 EB-08 DOTE-00 FAA-00 CAB-02
/078 W

-----111600Z 024878 /45

R 111510Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6103
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 4863

USIA FOR IPO IBS IPS IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT PFOR UR US
SUBJECT: THE BRAZINSKAS (AIRPLANE HIJACKING) AFFAIR

REF: (A) MOSCOW 4187, (B) MOSCOW 4295

1. BOTH PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA FOR APRIL 9 CARRY A TASS
DISPATCH DATED WASHINGTON, APRIL 8, ON THE HIJACKING
OF AN AIRPLANE TO TURKEY BY MEMBERS OF THE LITHUANIAN
BRAZINSKAS FAMILY IN 1970. BOTH PAPERS CARRY THE STORY
UNDER THE HEADLINE "WASHINGTON REMAINS SILENT". THE
DISPATCH BRIEFLY RECOUNTS THE STORY OF THE HIJACKING AND
COMMENTS THAT THE HIJACKERS ARE STILL AT LIBERTY IN THE
U.S. NOTING THAT THE CREW OF THE AIRPLANE SENT A LETTER
TO THE EMBASSY (REFTELS), THE STORY SAYS THAT THE EMBASSY
SHOULD IMMEDIATELY HAVE BROUGHT "THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION
TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE USA".

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HOWEVER, THE STORY CONTINUES, OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES
CANNOT SAY WHETHER THE LETTER WAS RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON
AND WHETHER IT WAS SENT TO THE PRESIDENT.

2. THE STORY GOES ON THAT A WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN
REFERRED THE TASS CORRESPONDENT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT
WHERE A SPOKESMAN SAID HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE

MATTER AND PROMISED AN ANSWER THE NEXT DAY. THE NEXT DAY HE COULD STILL GIVE NO CLEAR ANSWER ABOUT THE FATE OF THE LETTER, MERELY SAID HE WOULD GIVE AN ANSWER AT "AN APPROPRIATE TIME". THE STORY ENDS AS FOLLOWS: "THE WHITE HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE LEFT A LEGITIMATE QUESTION WITHOUT AN ANSWER. THIS OFTEN HAPPENS WHEN IT IS A QUESTION OF CRIMINALS HIDING IN THE U.S. OR THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE U.S."

3. COMMENT: THIS STORY GIVES THE SOVIET MEDIA THE OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP ALIVE THE ALLEGATION THAT THE U.S. IS SHELTERING CRIMINALS AND THAT IT IS NOT RESPONSIVE TO THE LEGITIMATE DEMANDS OF JOURNALISTS. IT ALSO DEPICTS THE U.S. AS IGNORING THOSE WHO SUFFERED FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THESE CRIMINALS AND, IN SOME UNSPECIFIED WAY, VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS.

4. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN CONFIRMING WHETHER TASS DID RAISE THE QUESTION OF THE LETTER WITH THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE DEPARTMENT AND WHAT PRESS GUIDANCE HAS BEEN PREPARED. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, EXTRADITION, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW04863
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770125-0630
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770469/aaaacigk.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 20b82fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 4187, 77 MOSCOW 4295
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2842048
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE BRAZINSKAS (AIRPLANE HIJACKING) AFFAIR
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UR, US, (BRAZINSKAS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/20b82fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009